

Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

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MAY, 1914

No. 7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anniversary Day May 31.

Children's Day, June 14.

Supper at the Church Thursday evening, June 4.

Social Day at the home of Mrs. Fred Shearer, Thursday, May 28.

Monthly business meeting of Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, June 2 at the home of Mr. Bitner, 519 East Lewis St.

Social afternoons at the home of Mrs. Masel Thursday, June 10, at the home of Mrs. Jacob Rudisill, June 25.

Monthly meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society at the home of Mrs. William Siebold Thursday afternoon June 16.

The C. E. Society is having a contest for attendance and membership. We are anxious to get all the young people in the church interested in this contest. Come and bring your friends.

The women of Grace church are invited to the home of Mrs. Fred Shearer for a social day Thursday, May 28. They will meet at the interurban station at 8:45. The car leaves at 9 o'clock on the Bluffton and Muncie line. They will get off at stop 14. Mrs. Shearer's home is just a short distance west from the station on the public highway. It is very kind of Mrs. Shearer to extend this invitation to the women, and we hope that all who possibly can will go out for the day. Local cars only stop at station 14. Local cars return to the city at 3 and 5 p. m.

Have you given a pledge for current expenses and for benevolence. The apportionment for the coming year is

\$1.86 per member. Every member that possibly can should pay 5 cents a week for benevolence. If you have not already given a pledge do so at once.

The Local Union of Young People's Society will give a world's miniature exhibit of missions on Tuesday evening May 26. The tours will begin at the St. Johns Reformed church, representing Japan, Grace Reformed church, Turkey, Plymouth Congregational church China, Baptist church Japan, W. Jefferson Church of Christ, India. Lunch will be served at each church. Tickets for the tour including lunch, 15c.

The Singin Skeul is doing splendid work. Prof. Dippin is a peach. It is marvelous the way he gets the boys and girls to run the scale and how they slide up and down, chasing each other all over from a to x. They are a smart lot he has got, they seem to be natural born singers. Their favorite chorus seems to be "Three Blind Mice." Some times you have to laugh and cry at the same time. "Dixie" is another one of of them and the "Little Brown Church." If you miss the public meeting and final singin you'll wish you hadn't. Lots of people coming from out of the city to hear em. Come early for a seat. Buy a lot of tickets and bring your neighbors and children. They will see and learn something. 25c. A good time at recess.

Section No. 3 will serve supper Thursday evening, June 4.

Managers—Mrs. Hildebrand, Mrs. C. F. Close, Mrs. D. E. Null and Mrs. Sarah Knight.

Assistants—Mesdames E. C. Close, W. F. Close, E. A. Close, H. E. Metzner,

James Evard, Kate Certia, Fred Shearer, Jacob Shearer, Clinton Shultz, Louis Tegtmeyer, August Guillman, Philip Heyman, Katie Weiler, Ed. Chausse, Fred Roth, Mary Richards, Frank Bercot, Kittie Parker, Helena Weikhart, R. M. Snyder, Otto Snyder, E. M. Klopfenstein, Della Waite, Emma Pfaff, and the Misses Ida Kirkham, Lillie Kirkham, Lottie Weiler, Elsie Weickart, Bertha Weickart, Juaneta Heyman, Helen Trish, Anna Doermer, Nellie Guillaum, Lillie Weickart, Julia Bercot, Maud Snyder, Esther Snyder.

Anniversary day of Grace Church, May 31, should be made a day of Thanksgiving and consecration. The Lord has been very good to Grace Church. All the success and prosperity it has had came from Him who is the great "Head of the Church." The church has had its trials and struggles, but it has outlived and triumphed over them all. With its present membership, and its organization it should do great things for the Lord in these days. The one thing it needs is consecration to the Lord, devotion and surrender for service.

The Lord will give us the open door of opportunity if we are willing to enter in. The success of the Church is not a question of opportunity, it is the question of surrender for service. "The harvest is great but the laborers are few." It is not a question of an open door, nor of a church with a large membership, it is the question of laborers—consecrated laborers. We are living in a day of great opportunities, but we must not forget that our responsibilities are as great as our opportunities. Pray that Anniversary Day may be a pentecostal day for the church, a day of inspiration and blessing.

The annual classical meetings were held at Goshen, Ind., May 4th to 7th. The delegates from Grace Church were Mrs. Frank Leikhauf, Mrs. C. H. Gumper, the pastor and wife. The Sunday school convention was held

from Monday evening, May 4th to Tuesday afternoon. The opening sermon of classes was preached on Tuesday evening by Rev. J. C. Smith, of Fulton, Mich. Rev. Cecil Albright, of Detroit, Mich., was elected president of classes and Mr. Hand, of Culver, Ind., was re-elected treasurer. The meetings of classis were very pleasant and harmonious.

The Woman's Missionary Society held its first session on Wednesday morning. Mrs. H. B. Diefelbach, of Bluffton, was re-elected president of the Society and Mrs. Leikauf was re-elected treasurer. The society celebrated its 25th anniversary at this meeting. At the annual meeting of classis held at St. Paul's church, near Colon, Mich., May 15th, 1889, steps were taken to organize a Woman's Classical Missionary Society. The representatives from Grace Church to that meeting were Mrs. F. D. Paulus, Mrs. Zartman and Miss Mollie Buckwalter. Mrs. Zartman was the organizer of the Society and was its first president. An adjourned meeting of the society was held at Grace Church, Fort Wayne, on August 28, 1889, when the organization was completed and a constitution adopted. The committee appointed to prepare a constitution was composed of women from Grace church, Mrs. Zartman, Mrs. Paulus, Miss Buckwalter. The officers elected aside of the president were Mrs. I. Rathenberger, White Pigeon, Mich., vice president; Miss Loma Stiver, Millersbury, Ind., recording secretary, Mrs. Benham, Plymouth, Ind. Treasurer, Miss Selina Zehner, Plymouth, Ind. At the anniversary service at Goshen, Mrs. Zartman, in view of the service she had rendered the Society, was made a life member of the General Synodical Society. We are sure she appreciates this honor and expression of appreciation of her services.

The delegates to classis were royally entertained by the members of the Goshen church. It was a great privi-

lege for us to go back again and spend a few days in this quiet and beautiful little city on the Elkhart river, and where we could mingle again with the people of the church of which we were pastor for seven years—1881 to 1888. When we entered upon the pastorate with the church the membership numbered just thirty. The church has now a membership of nearly three hundred, and has a Men's Bible class of over 200. The church is doing a splendid work under the leadership of Rev. Faust. We were entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Plater. It gave us great pleasure to be with these dear friends again for a few days. They are in fairly good health and are kind and cordial as ever. Mrs. Leikauf and Mrs. Gumpfer were pleasantly entertained at the home of Mr. Geo. Mutchler.

The Consistory and Woman's Aid Society of Grace Church jointly extended an invitation to classis to hold its next annual meeting in Fort Wayne. The invitation was accepted. The meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in May, 1915.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

The summer season is now coming on and we are anxious to keep our attendance up. There is always a tendency when nice sunny Sundays come to stay away from Sunday school and church. We want to overcome this as much as possible this year. Let every member be a committee of one to see that the attendance does not go down this summer.

Mother's day, May 10th, was appropriately observed in the Sunday school and church, in fact we made it an entire day of special "Mothers Day" services.

We are now busy planning for our "Children's Day" exercises, full announcements will be made of the services on this day we want to get out all the children who are members and

those who should be members of our Sunday school and by children we mean every body (for men and women are but children older grown) we want to make a special effort to get out the babies in the cradle roll. Children's day should be one of the very biggest days in the year for the Sunday school.

Our classes are all quite active, holding business meetings and arranging plans of work as well as methods of getting new scholars. We trust the interest will keep up and continue to grow.

It is with regret we announce the removal to Chicago to live by Miss Elsie Krenz, who has made her home with her sister, Mrs. Ed. Heyman for some time and has been one of our active workers and treasurer of the Progreda class. We shall miss her greatly, but as pleased to have her assurance that she will promptly associate herself with the work in her new home. We wish for her pleasant home and many friends in her new location.

Several classes are adopting the plan of having the teacher alternate with the scholars in teaching the lesson. This gives the scholars an added incentive for studying the lesson and will serve to give them experience so that should they be called upon to teach a class they will be accustomed to it.

The primary department has secured a handsome little church to be used as a bank for missionary funds. they have an interesting missionary service and practice weekly giving for this purpose. We are anxious to increase the benevolence spirit in the whole school and to this end will hereafter apply all our birthday offerings to benevolence. We trust that when the anniversary of your birth arrives you will number it with a birthday offering for benevolence.

The young men of the Agenda Class were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Gumpfer Thursday evening, May 21.

Grace Church Visitor

REV. A. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher

Subscription Price, 25 cents per year

Mr. John Snyder has been quite ill at his home in Cass street.

Mrs. C. F. Close is feeling much better and is at her home on Lewis street.

Mr. Clark Bitner is at home for several week's visit. He spent the winter at a resort near Phoenix, Arizona. We are glad to see him in our services again.

Mrs. McAndrews, of St. Thomas, Canada, was in the city for a few days visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gavin.

Mrs. Martin Blum is at the St. Joe hospital. She is quite infirm and helpless. She will be glad to see any of our people.

Mr. Hills has been suffering severely with pneuralgia all spring. We hope when the weather becomes more settled he will feel better.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert are now having rooms at 602 Madison st.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas Rogers recently spent a Sabbath with their son Earl in Cleveland, Ohio. We were glad to hear from them while there.

Mrs. Siemons and Mrs. Diefenbach, of Bluffton, Mrs. Leikauf and Mrs. Zartman are attending the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod, now in session (May 21) at York, Pa. Before returning home they expect to visit Gettysburg and Washington, D. C.

In a recent conversation with a stranger who attended our evening services, he said, "I enjoyed the sermon so much, but it seemed such a pity that the attendance was so small." How many of the members of Grace Church realize that by their unresponsiveness and unfaithfulness, they are really hindering the growth of the Church? How

many are willing to make any sacrifice to make the work of the Church a success? What possibilities are centered in a consecrated Christian example? There are a cloud of witnesses about us, watching our consistent following of the Master, or seeing with surprise our unfaithfulness and our inconsistency. If you are interested in the Church and want to see it grow, why don't you do your part of the pulling? Don't let the world have a chance to say that your life does not harmonize with your profession. Be in your pew and God, the Church, and strangers will see you there. Your presence may be a stepping stone for some sinner into the Kingdom.

BY A MEMBER.

Agenda Corner.

Since you last heard of us a great many things have happened. Interest in Bible class work which at this time of the year always begins to lag seems now to have taken a decided boom. At a special meeting of the class some time ago we had three acquisitions to our roll. By the time this paper gets to your hands we will have had another meeting and undoubtedly several new names will be on the record. There has been little in the way of social affairs, but the committee chairman has something on his mind which I think will unload in the near future. Things athletically have been going fine. We have two tennis courts which are now going through the stage of reconstruction. In a few days everything will be in full swing. There is some interest in baseball, but we do not know whether or not a team can be organized. There is also a great deal of interest in croquet. The plans of the prayer committee are proving a success. The Sunday morning lesson sessions at which one of the members takes charge have proven decidedly instructive and have tended to increase interest. We

hope the plan will continue to work as well. The class has also decided to stage a contest for membership. The contest is to run until the last Sunday in August. The loosing side is then to entertain in whatever manner the social committee decides. We shall expect many new members, but we can consider the contest a success if we only hold our own throughout the summer.

In the last number of the visitor we promised you something in the way of a city union of Bible classes. Well it has happened and there was so much interest shown that everybody expects the Bible Class enrollment to be doubled within a year. The union is to be known as the "Young Men's Forward Congress." The organization took place at the First Baptist church Monday evening, May 18. There were two hundred and twenty-seven young men present. These represented sixteen Bible classes of the city and left seven churches unreported. The election of Officers created a great deal of interest. Mr. Glenn Smiley was chosen president; Mr. Clifford Hutchinson 1st vice-president; J. M. Fitch, 2d vice-president; Earl M. Dinger, recording secretary; Silas Arick, corresponding secretary, and Geo. Fishing, treasurer.

The organization has adopted the motto "Young Men for Young Men." It plans to create rivalry among the classes in every way possible, it plans to hold debates and lectures, and its greatest object is to boost for a Y. M. C. A. Mr. J. O. Goff is to head the Y. M. C. A. work, Mr. Lawrence Porter, the devotional, John Doswell the literary, Ivan Harper, the athletic, the social Morris Sharp and the Music Leslie Jacobs. Following the election, Rev. A. A. Fletcher, of Warsaw, gave a very interesting talk as did also Mr. R. H. Perfect. Then came refreshments. Everybody got acquainted and had a good time. We are looking for great results.

C. E. TOPICS AND LEADERS.

- June 7—Twelve Great Verses. VI. The Purity Verse—Mat. 5:8, Mrs. Geo. Shiffer.
- June 14—How Employers and Employees Should Work Together—Col. 3:22-25; 4:1, Evan Williams.
- June 21—Chief Seats and How to Reach Them—Luke 14:7-11, Nora Miner.
- June 28—Civic Reforms That Endeavorers Should Promote—Isa 1:10-20. Prayer Meeting Com.
- July 5—Twelve Great Verses VII. The Friendship Verse. Prov. 27:9. Ruth Siebold.
- July 12—The Christian Ministry of Music—Ps 150:1-6. Arthur Weiler.
- July 19—Faithful in Little Things—Luke 16:10-13. Lulu Bitner
- July 26—Good News From the Mission Fields—Ps. 66:1-8. Bertha Weickhart.

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Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Close entertained the Young People's Society at their home on Tuesday evening, May 12. There was a large attendance and some spirited discussions.

The Adult Bible Class has a campaign on for new members. The class has been divided into teams of three members each. Each team is to secure two additional members. Several teams have already secured their number. Later on the class will again be divided on the same plan with a few additional new features to continue the campaign. Adults of all ages and sexes are eligible to membership in the class. The class is composed of men and women, married and unmarried, members of the church and those who are not members; in all it has an enrollment of sixty-eight members. The class meets in the church auditorium at 9:45 on Sabbath morning. If you cannot come for the opening service of the Sunday school, come for the lesson study.

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